

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 02882 232326Z

70

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /026 W

----- 016495

O R 232045Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1009

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JIDDA 02882

EXDIS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SA, PFOR, US, IS, XF

SUBJECT: SAG ADVOCATES FIRMNESS IN U.S. DEALINGS WITH ISRAEL

REF: (A) JIDDA 2879; (B) JIDDA 2881

SUMMARY: CROWN PRINCE FAHD AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRINCE SAUD EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THE U.S. WAS APPARENTLY CURTAILING ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL. THEY HOPED THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER WOULD CONTINUE THIS POLICY OF FIRMNESS. THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN HOWEVER ABOUT ISRAEL'S EXPANDING PRESENCE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IS THERE SOME PUBLIC STATEMENT OF OURS THAT CAN SERVE TO REASSURE THEM? THEY WILL BE LOOKING FOR SOME ANSWER AFTER OUR POLICY REASSESSMENT IS COMPLETE. END SUMMARY.

1. CROWN PRINCE FAHD AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRINCE SAUD BIN FAISAL, ASKED THE AMBASSADOR ON SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 02882 232326Z

APRIL 23 ABOUT ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON'S RECENT

STATEMENT THAT ISRAEL WOULD SHOW NO RPT NO FLEXIBILITY  
IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL THE U.S. RESUMED ARMED  
SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL.

2. THEY SAID THEY WERE GRATIFIED TO LEARN FROM THIS  
THAT THE U.S. HAD APPARENTLY CURTAILED--PERHAPS EVEN  
STOPPED--ARMS DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL AND THAT ISRAEL WAS  
APPARENTLY FOR THE FIRST TIME BEGINNING TO REALIZE THAT  
THE U.S. WAS CAPABLE OF RESISTING ISRAELI  
POLITICAL PRESSURE.

3. PRINCE FAHD SAID HE HAD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR REPEAT-  
EDLY, KING FAISAL HAD TOLD SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE  
AMBASSADOR, AND IN ONE OF KING FAISAL'S LAST MESSAGES TO  
PRESIDENT FORD, HE HAD DESCRIBED THE FAILURE OF THE OLD  
AMERICAN POLICY OF TRYING TO BUY ISRAELI CONCESSIONS  
WITH UNLIMITED MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. BY  
NOW FAHD SAID HE HOPED THE U.S. WOULD SEE THAT ASSISTANCE  
"INCREASES ISRAELI ARROGANCE NOT ISRAELI FLEXIBILITY."

4. FAHD SAID HE WISHED TO URGE SECRETARY KISSINGER AND  
PRESIDENT FORD TO REMAIN FIRM. THE ARABS WANT PEACE.  
PRESIDENT SADAT IS NOW FIRMLY IN THE U.S. CAMP; THERE CAN  
BE NO DOUBT ABOUT SAUDI ARABIA; AND SADAT AND FAHD WORKING  
TOGETHER WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH ASAD (REF A). THE  
ARABS BELIEVE THEY CAN WORK OUT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS  
SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT  
THEY MUST HAVE THEIR LAND BACK. ONLY THE UNITED STATES  
CAN COMPEL ISRAEL TO YIELD THEM AND ALL ARABS, HE SAID,  
ARE CONVINCED THAT THIS CAN BE DONE ONLY BY MAINTAINING  
PRESSURE, I.E. BY CONTINUING TO WITHHOLD ASSISTANCE.

5. BOTH FAHD AND SAUD CALLED THE AMBASSADOR'S ATTENTION  
TO RECENT GOI ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT EXPANDING ISRAEL'S PRESENCE  
AND SETTLEMENTS IN GOLAN, THE WEST BANK AND ESPECIALLY  
IN JERUSALEM. THEY SAID THE LATE OMAR SAQQAF HAD REPEATEDLY  
ASKED THE AMBASSADOR IF SUCH ISRAELI PROJECTS DID NOT  
PROVE THAT ISRAEL NEVER INTENDED TO GIVE UP THESE LANDS, AND  
RECALLED SAQQAF HAD ALSO ASKED WHAT THE U.S. INTENDED TO DO  
ABOUT THEM. BOTH MEN SAID THEY KNEW OUR RESPONSE HAD BEEN THAT  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 JIDDA 02882 232326Z

NOTHING ISRAEL DID WOULD PREJUDICE THE FINAL PEACE  
SETTLEMENT. BUT THEY ASKED IF THE U.S. HAD EVER PRO-  
TESTED THE ISRAELI ACTIONS. THERE HAD CERTAINLY BEEN  
NO PUBLIC CONDEMNATION, THEY SAID, AND THEY ASKED IF ISRAEL FROM  
THIS COULD NOT LEGITIMATELY CONCLUDE THAT THE U.S. AT  
LEAST TACITLY APPROVED OF THE COLONIZING OF ARAB LANDS.

6. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: THE EXPANSION OF THE

ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE LANDS OCCUPIED IN 1967 IS OF  
GREAT CONCERN TO THE SAUDIS. IS THERE ANYTHING WE  
HAVE SAID OR DONE IN ISRAEL THAT WOULD REASSURE THE  
SAUDIS THAT WE DO NOT CONDONE ISRAELI ANNEX ACTIONS?  
THE SAUDIS WILL NOT PRESS FOR AN ANSWER PENDING COMPLE-  
TION OF THE POLICY REASSESSMENT, BUT THEY WILL EXPECT  
AN ANSWER SHORTLY AFTER IT IS FINISHED.  
AKINS

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NNN

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